

FAIRISLE TIMES

The Newsletter of Fairisle Junior School

December 2023

Issue No. 8



Christmas Craft Day

On Wednesday we all had a brilliant day as we made all sorts of Christmas bits! The children had a lovely time and even the teachers enjoyed themselves as they made baubles, cards and lots of other Christmas decorations!

Walking through the classrooms during the afternoon, they were full of smiles and glitter and were a hive of industry.

I know that Christmas Craft Day is one of the times we really look forward to in school and the children love taking their finished articles home.

Very well done everyone and thank you all for making the day such a success.

No doubt we'll do it all again next year!



Christmas Concert — What a Success!

It was lovely to see all the children getting into the Christmas spirit on Tuesday at our concert. I still can't believe that we managed to get over 560 parents into the hall for the two performances. Thank you very much to everyone who helped make the day such a success.



Christmas Lunch

Yesterday, our kitchen catered for over 300 children, as we continued our tradition of providing a free Christmas lunch for every child who wanted one. Leigh and our kitchen team performed a minor miracle and everyone was fed and back in class by 1.20pm. Thank you very much to our catering team and also to our staff who acted as waiters and waitresses for the children. Even Santa took time out of his busy schedule to pay us a visit once again!



Over the past few weeks, Mrs Woods has been part of a Children's Services appeal, collecting presents for families.

We were a drop-off point and about 150 presents were dropped off at our school. Thank you to everyone who has supported this great cause.

On behalf of everyone at Fairisle Junior, please have a Fantastic and Safe Break, a Wonderful and Merry Christmas and a Very Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

See you all on Tuesday 2 January 2024.



SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Please
Park



Considerately

SOME DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

On the front page of our new website www.fjslive.net is our school calendar. We will keep this up to date so you can see it at anytime.

Tuesday 2 January 2024

Monday 8 January

Monday 15 January

Monday 15 — Friday 19 January

Wednesday 31 January

Thursday 1 February

Thursday 8 February

Friday 9 February

Monday 19 February

Children return to school

Year 6 to Tudor House

New Trim Trail Build Starts

Year 5 Residential Visit to Stubbington

Young Voices 2024

Year 3 to Butser Farm

School closes for February Half Term

The Fairisle Schools closed for Staff Training Day

Children return to school

A Message from our Vice Chair of Governors

I have been a Governor of Fairisle Junior School for nearly 20 years and over that time I have seen many changes to our amazing school. Earlier this year, our children and staff experienced the 'trauma' of an Ofsted inspection and I am sure you will have been very pleased to learn that we have been graded 'Good' once again. This grading, in my view, does not adequately define our incredible school or the dedicated work of its staff and its amazing pupils. It has been my great privilege, as a Governor, to see the school grow and develop to an outstanding school in every way. As a measure of our success we have now over 400 pupils, the largest number in the school's history and as 40% of our pupils are out of their normal school catchment area, it suggests that parents and children regard Fairisle as the school of choice rather than attend a closer and more convenient alternative.



As Governor I have a special responsibility to monitor the provision of English, including the teaching of Phonics for those pupils who require additional support with reading and writing. I also monitor Attendance, which you may be aware the school is working particularly hard in order to return to our pre-Covid level. Please can I ask for your special cooperation to ensure your child attends school regularly and on time. Please share any difficulties you may be experiencing with the school. They are always ready and willing to assist.

Additionally, I have a particular focus on Inclusion, to ensure that those pupils with Special Educational Needs receive the appropriate support and that their education is not disadvantaged in any way. As parents your support and engagement with Fairisle is crucial to your child's education and our future success and we as Governors are always happy to meet with you to discuss any of your suggestions and concerns over your child's education and wellbeing.

On behalf of our Governing Body, I wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year. Phil Chapman MBE JP Vice Chair of Governors.

Attendance — Autumn Term 2023

Everyone knows that attendance at school has taken a prominent place nationally and I am very pleased to be able to let you know that it continues to improve here at FJS. Last year during the autumn term attendance was 92.15%. This year for the same period attendance is now 94.21%.

Very well done to everyone in 6CT (97.72%), 4HH (96.57%) and 3EC (96.75%), whose attendance has been better this term than our pre pandemic school target of 96.5%.

Congratulations to the **109 children** who have attended school **on time everyday** this term. This is a really great achievement. I have challenged the children to increase this for next term. Let's go for it!

During the first week back after the Christmas holiday, we will be sending every parent a new report showing their children's attendance for the autumn term. We will then repeat this after the Easter holiday and in everyone's annual report, which will go home at the end of June.

Remember you have to be in it to win it!